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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Trade in Goods and Services,
and Commodities
Geneva, 19-23 February 2001
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Comments by the Mission of Mauritius to the United Nations on the outcome of the UNCTAD Expert Meeting on National Experiences with Regulation and Liberalization: Examples in the Construction Services Sector and Its Contribution to the Development of Developing Countries

GE. 01-50426

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Please refer to UNCTAD Notification No. TDO 912(1) 00/109, dated 10 November 2000.

The Mission of gives hereunder comments which it has received from capital its:

(a) A strong domestic construction services sector can be a powerful instrument for employment creation, a crucial infrastructure service and a means of upgrading the welfare of people in developing countries. Dialogue should be maintained consistently between private and public stakeholders to achieve the right policy mix.

(b) Consideration may be given to:

(i) Commissioning of case studies of successful joint ventures with foreign firms to serve as a basis for preparation of policy guidelines, with a focus on economic, fiscal and industrial policies and a regulatory framework;

(ii) Capacity-building in developing countries so as to enable them to participate more effectively in negotiations on trade in services;

(iii) Emphasis on the social objectives of the sub-sectors, e.g. housing.

(c) The policy of continuous learning and training of professionals should be reinforced.

It would be appreciated if these comments could be factored into UNCTAD's work during the Commission's session to be held in February 2001. We would appreciate receiving three copies of the report on the session and related documents when they become available.

The delay in submitting the above comments is regretted.

Assuring you of my best personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

S. Palayathan
For Head of Mission